

23. (Amended). A purified polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO:2, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:2, and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

27. (Amended). A recombinant expression system comprising a nucleic acid sequence that includes an open reading frame operably linked to a control sequence compatible with a desired host, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO:2, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:2, and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

29. (Amended). A cell transfected with a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one epitope, the nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO:2, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:2, and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

30. (Amended). A composition of matter comprising a purified polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO:2, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:2, and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

Please delete claim 31 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application in view of the above amendments and following arguments is respectfully requested.

Claims 21, 23, 27, 29 and 30 have been amended. Specifically, SEQ ID NOS: 1, 3-8 and 10 in claims 21, 23, 27, 29 and 30 have been deleted from these claims in